

## WASHINGTON COUNTY (UTAH). COUNTY RECORDER [1325]

### AGREEMENTS AND LEASES, 1923-1954.

3 microfilm reels

**DESCRIPTION:** Agreements and leases were recorded by the county recorder when certain privileges were granted to one party while the other party retained property ownership or when two parties wanted to make an agreement between them official. Many kinds of leases and agreements are contained in these books, however, the majority of records involve mineral rights. In accordance with a 1920 Congressional act designed to promote the mining of coal, phosphate, oil, oil shale, or gas and sodium on the public domain, (Statutes at Large, Treaties, and Proclamations, of the United States of America, vol. XLI, part 1, chap. 85) individuals or corporations could obtain prospecting permits on the public land which entitled them to extract coal or other mineral deposits. In addition to prospecting permits, Washington County lease and agreement books contain numerous documents granting one individual the right to enter to procure oil, gas, or minerals while another individual retains ownership and the right to use the land for agricultural purposes. Documents in these books define who is leasing from whom; describe the property being leased; define the covenant or agreement and its terms; identify encumbrances, benefits, royalties; and define both lessee and lessor privileges and responsibilities. Other issues which may be discussed include liens, who will pay taxes, and compensation in case of damages.

Certain corporate or individual names appear frequently in the lease and agreement books. These include several oil companies such as Virgin Dome Oil Company, Utah Oil Refining Company, Continental Oil Company (CONOCO), Sinclair and Standard Oil Companies. Book 7 contains numerous leases involving the United States Atomic Energy Commission and uranium mining. While most of the leases and agreements deal with oil, gas or uranium, documents in these books relate to many issues. Agreements include such things as prenuptial agreements, agreements between partners in business, and agreements between corporations, such as an agreement between Dixie Power Company and Veyo Irrigation Company about

water use. Leases include a wide variety of things, such as land leases for agriculture or a federal government lease of space in the Saint George Tabernacle for a post office.

**ARRANGEMENT:** Leases and agreements were arranged chronologically in the order recorded.

**RELATED RECORDS:** After 1954 leases and agreements were recorded in OFFICIAL RECORDS, series 7067. Before 1923 they were recorded in Washington County deed books, including DEEDS (WASHINGTON), series 23262; DEEDS (SAINT GEORGE), series 23286; DEEDS (TOQUERVILLE), series 23265; DEEDS (PINE VALLEY), series 23264; DEEDS (SILVER REEF), series 23263; MINING DEEDS, series 23669; and WATER CERTIFICATES AND DEEDS, series 23251. MINING NOTICES OF LOCATION, series 81372, contains many placer claims for petroleum. ABSTRACTS (SECTIONAL LAND), series 16432 and ABSTRACTS (MINES), series 23670 contain chronological histories of each property or mining claim, indicating book and page numbers where leases or other documents were recorded. GRANTEE AND GRANTOR INDEXES, series 82703 and 82704, provide name indexes to leases and agreements by lessee and lessor respectively. MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS INDEX, series 23468, also indexes leases and agreements by the surname of both parties. POWERS OF ATTORNEY INDEX, series 23685, provides reference to the powers of attorney in these books.

**PROCESSING NOTE:** Washington County agreement and lease books were microfilmed by the Utah State Archives in September 1973 and processed by Rosemary Cundiff in June 2001.

**PREFERRED CITATION:** Cite the Utah State Archives and Records Service, the creating agency name, the series title, and the series number.

## CONTAINER LIST

Reel	Description
1	July 1923-Mar 1927 (Book 1)
1	Apr 1927 (Book 2)
1	Apr 1927-Sep 1930 (Book 3)
1	Sep 1930-Mar 1932 (Book 4, pages 1-265)
2	Mar 1932-Oct 1937 (Book 4, continued)
2	Oct 1937-Nov 1948 (Book 5)
2	Dec 1948-May 1949 (Book 6, pages 1-170)
3	May 1949-Apr 1951 (Book 6, continued)
3	Apr 1951-Dec 1954 (Book 7)

